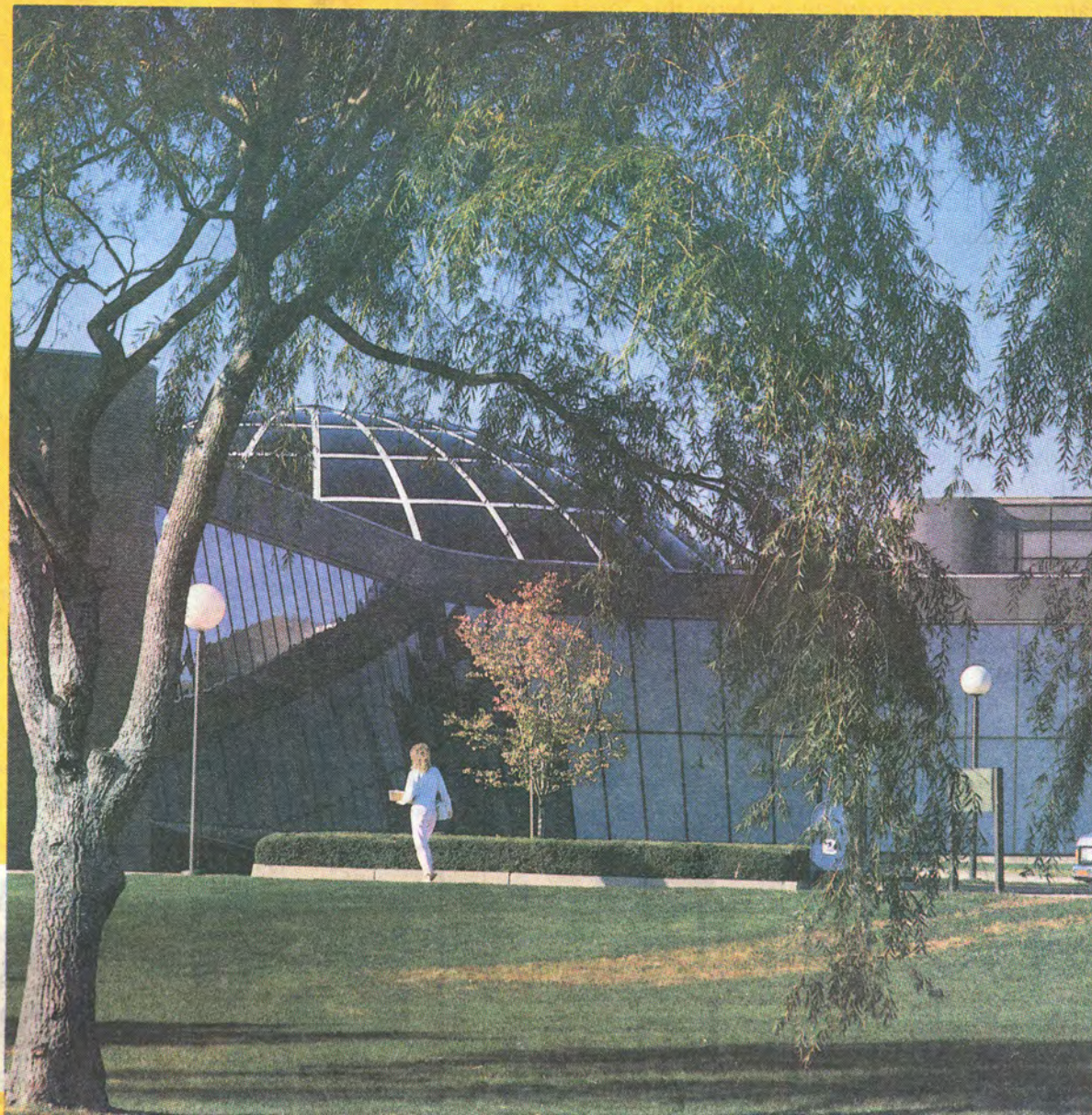


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1971-1991

A message from the president

This special supplement commemorates the 20th anniversary of Bryant College's move to Smithfield. We of the Bryant family are fortunate to share this lovely area with you, our northern Rhode Island neighbors.

For 20 years in Smithfield, and 128 years in Rhode Island, Bryant has been a vibrant center of learning and an important resource for businesses large and small. We hope this supplement gives you a sense of the contributions that a vital and innovative college can make to our community and to society as a whole.

Our ability to attract students from throughout the United States and from around the world is testimony not only to the elegance of our campus, the excellence of our faculty, and the strength of our staff, but also to the warmth of our neighbors.

As we celebrate the past, we look forward to the future and to an increasingly harmonious relationship with our community.

Sincerely,



President



President Trueheart speaking at the dedication of another complex of townhouses on campus.

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Bryant College
On Your
20th Anniversary
In The
Town Of Smithfield
Smithfield Town Council


The Twentieth Anniversary of Bryant College in Smithfield is published by Observer Publications and the Bryant College Office of Public Information.

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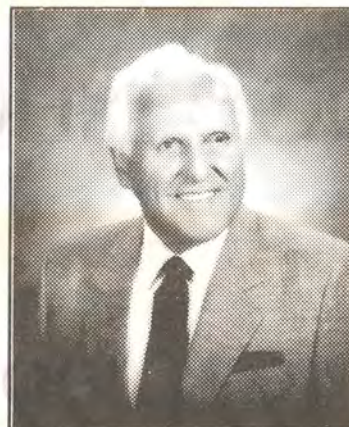


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Bryant in Smithfield: country farm to national college

Smithfield might have been the last place Bryant College officials would have looked in the late 1960s to locate a new campus. But Earl Tupper, the founder of Tupperware, had decided to sell his historic 220-acre farm on John Mowry Road. And a Bryant professor who lived in Smithfield alerted president Gardner Jacobs to its possible availability.

It was not until six months later that Tupper called to set up a meeting with Jacobs at the Biltmore Hotel in Providence. At that meeting, Tupper said, he became very impressed with the college--especially its ability to find jobs for its graduating seniors. He was so impressed, he said, that he might be willing to give the land to Bryant--instead of selling it to someone else.

Tupper's revelation stunned Jacobs and, sure enough, Tupper was true to his word. He eventually donated the farm to Bryant, and signed over the property on October 24, 1967. It was a day like none other in Bryant's history.

Building a new campus in Smithfield, however, still required a significant expenditure--especially for a college with a small annual operating surplus and no endowment. Also, Bryant still had to sell its campus on the East Side of Providence.

The federal department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was the next stop for Bryant. That visit produced a \$5 million grant and a separate \$5 million subsidy for any interest beyond three percent that build-



Wielding spades at the groundbreaking for Bryant's Smithfield campus were (left to right) Nelson Gulski, acting president; Carl Adler, Town Council president; Frank Licht, RI governor, and Gardner Jacobs, retired president.

Best Wishes Bryant!

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Bryant College

beyond three percent that building loans would require. With that money in hand, Bryant trustees agreed to issue \$12.5 million in bonds. They sold within a few days.

Brown University--Bryant's East Side neighbor and the only logical buyer for the adjacent campus--was the next stop for college officials. Negotiations for the 26 buildings and furnishings produced another \$4.5 million for Bryant when the sale was concluded on March 20, 1969.

While negotiating the sale of the old campus, Bryant also had been looking at designs for the new site. A young architect from Princeton, NJ, who built a scale model of the entire campus, most impressed administrators and trustees. By February, 1969, the architect, J. Robert Hillier, now a

Continued on next page

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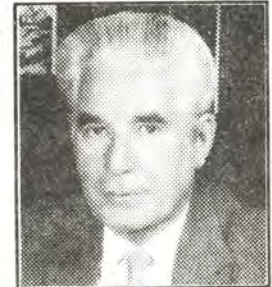
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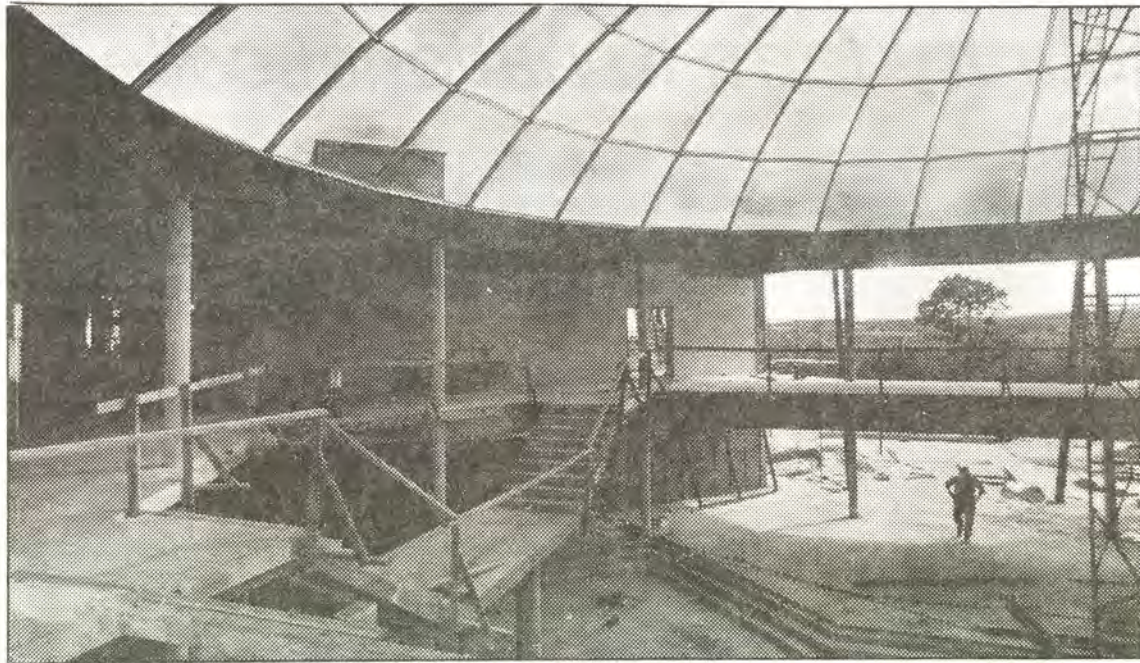
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The Rotunda under construction in the Unistructure classroom and office building.

Continued from prior page

Bryant trustee, had landed the job. He said it was "the biggest moment of my life."

Hillier and a team of seven designers from the firm then moved onto the homestead for several months that winter. They wanted to walk the Memory Ridge acreage, study wind direction and velocity, and chart rainfall and snow accumulations. And they wanted to work closely with a planning committee made up of administrators, faculty, and students to carefully design the campus.

Hillier's initial models consisted of several classroom and office buildings, a dormitory complex, and a gymnasium. But the longer the team of architects studied the wind-swept ridge, the more they decided that one large

building for classrooms, offices, dining halls and a library would keep everyone in out of the cold and other nasty weather. Building one large building instead of several smaller facilities also made more sense economically--especially with a tight budget.

The Unistructure design soon was approved. It included almost every convenience students and staff could ask for: a student union, dining halls, bank, post office, auditorium, bookstore, radio station, library, classrooms, and offices. The Unistructure, which won a national architectural award for Bryant and Hillier, still remains Bryant's principal office and classroom building.

John Mowry Road, the winding country road to the Mowry Homestead, was another problem. It was not suitable as a main entrance to the campus. So Bryant began looking for property that abutted Douglas Pike (Route 7) to carve out a new entrance. A property owner who wanted to sell was found, and Bryant soon bought land to begin preparing a new drive. The entrance also served as a way for utilities and water lines to be brought to the campus from the highway. Property owners on either side of the highway also could now tap into town water.

Some citizens of Smithfield did raise a variety of concerns about an entire college moving into town. One particular concern was the fate of the two 18th-century houses on the Mowry Homestead. In cooperation with the Smithfield Historical Society, Bryant preserved the homes and barn in their original state and moved them to new locations on John Mowry Road.

Groundbreaking for the new campus--named for Tupper--was

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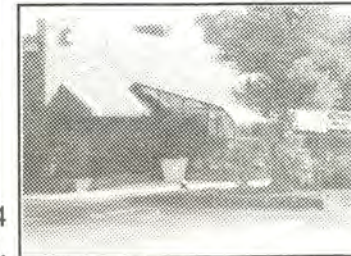
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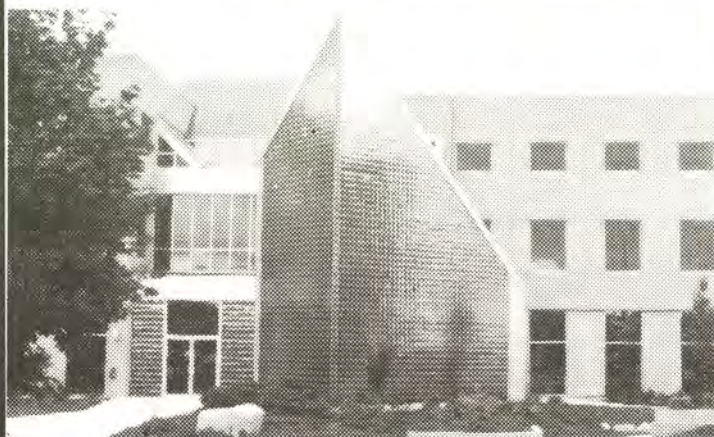
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Groundbreaking for the new campus named for Tupper was held in April, 1970. The Smithfield Town Council's president, Carl Adler, helped to turn the earth with a spade. It was 17 months and one day later, on Sept. 20, 1971, when students moved onto their new campus. That the campus could be ready and opened in so short a time was considered a miracle by many people. It is said that construction crews moved out the back door of the Unistructure just as students and faculty moved in the front. Dining hall kitchens, in fact, were not completed. So for several months, students ate meals cooked by the thousands in Providence and trucked to Smithfield each day.

The only reminder of the East Side campus to greet the students was the wrought-iron arch that framed the front entrance to South Hall. It was brought to campus and erected near the Unistructure so students could continue to process through it on graduation day. The Arch now sits on the principal campus walkway and is identified by a granite marker. The marker outlines its history and a tradition that goes with it. That is, students who walk through the Arch before Commencement day will not graduate. Dirt paths worn around the Arch were lined with paving blocks four years ago—a gift of the Class of 1987 along with the granite marker.

Shortly after the move to the campus 20 years ago, college officials realized that students living on a suburban campus needed places in addition to the student union to socialize and recreate. A gymnasium soon was constructed. And land was cleared for baseball and soccer fields, tennis courts, and a track. The campus basically was com-

plete--at least through the tumultuous tenure of president Harry Evarts in the early 1970s.

Despite the upheaval of those years, enrollment continued to climb at the new, modern campus, and Bryant soon needed the space occupied by the student union in the Unistructure for more offices and classrooms. College administrators, now headed by acting president Nelson Gulski, went back to the drawing boards and began planning a new stand-alone student center. Named for a principal benefactor, Sol Koffler, founder of American Tourister, the Koffler Center opened in October, 1976. The opening came shortly after William T. O'Hara took over as president of Bryant that summer.

Construction of the student union would be the last major building project until 1981. That's when a Multipurpose Activities Center (MAC) was opened adjacent to the gymnasium to expand recreational opportunities. It was the first of a host of construction projects that remain as an unprecedented legacy of O'Hara's 13-year term as Bryant president.

During O'Hara's term, Bryant truly became a residential campus with a national student body. Built over those years to accommodate the rising number of students desiring to live on campus were additional residence halls and townhouse complexes and another much larger student union--the Bryant Center. The latter has been cited nationally for its outstanding design, function, and furnishings. The Koffler Center (the former student union) then was transformed into a state-of-the-art computer center for students and faculty.

ports. And the RIEAC is quickly becoming a national model for its training programs and an international database of trade leads offered to businesses who want to sell products and services overseas.

Bryant also has been operating since 1988 as World Trade Center Rhode Island--a member of the international World Trade Centers Association. Again, Bryant was a pioneer by becoming the first American college and one of the few worldwide to serve as a World Trade Center. WTCA members can take advantage of a communications and computer network and a variety of overseas support and "networking" services to export their goods and services and do business internationally.

Bryant also broke more new ground in 1989 when O'Hara stepped down as president. Following a nationwide search, the board of trustees hired Bryant's executive vice president and a former trustee, William E. Trueheart, to replace O'Hara. Trueheart became the first African-American to lead a private college in New England.

Trueheart has pledged to continue Bryant's march to becoming a truly national institution with roots in Smithfield. Indeed, Bryant already has been recog-



The campus as it looked on Memory Ridge in the early 1970s.

nized as among the two best business-specialty colleges in the nation and the "best buy" among all business-specialty colleges by the influential U.S. News and World Report's annual report on the nation's best colleges. An admissions guide published by Barron's for prospective students also lists Bryant among its 300 "best buys" in the country.

Perhaps a comment made by former president O'Hara during

Bryant's 125th anniversary celebration in 1988 still sums up the future best. He said:

"This is an historic moment in the long and distinguished history of Bryant College. Our analysis of demographics, of America's business needs, of the future of higher education and our place in it--all of these have gone into the momentous decision to attain a new level of excellence for Bryant. If you are proud of

Bryant today, you will be electrified as the years unfold."

("Bryant College: The First 125 Years," a pictorial history of Bryant from 1863-1988, is available from the College for a more complete history. Call 401-232-6120 for more information.)

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for students and faculty. Perhaps the most important legacy of the O'Hara years, however, was the development and implementation of a "strategic planning" process to position Bryant for the 1990s and the 21st century. A Strategic Planning Committee has been meeting each year since 1983 to chart Bryant's future and recommend directions. Among its initial recommendations were the construction of the Bryant Center and additional student housing options for an increasingly diverse student body. Bryant students now come from 30 states and 29 foreign countries.

Bryant's years in Smithfield also have seen the College develop several of the top business-service programs in the country. Together, the programs draw thousands of executives and business owners and operators to the campus and other satellite sites annually.

The Center for Management Development, launched in 1973, was Bryant's first "service" program. It now offers hundreds of executive and continuing education programs for professionals in New England and the Northeast.

The Rhode Island Small Business Development Center opened in 1982 in cooperation with the federal Small Business Administration. It offers low-cost seminars and free consulting services to small businesses on and off campus. The RISBDC also was the first such agency in the nation to be administered by a private college.

The Rhode Island Export Assistance Center, a spinoff of the RISBDC, opened in 1988. It is now the RI Department of Economic Development's primary agency for promoting ex-

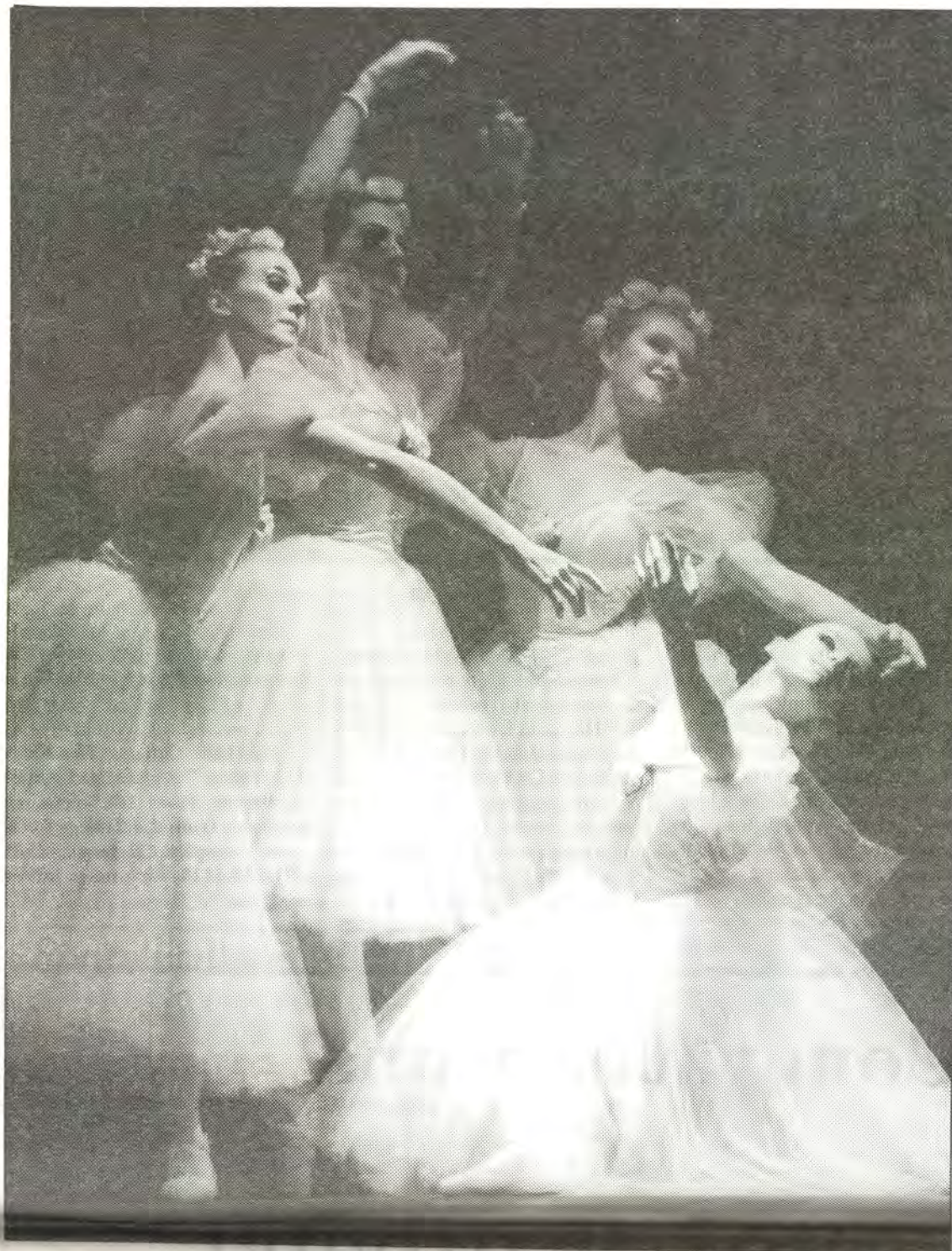
Glimpses of Bryant life

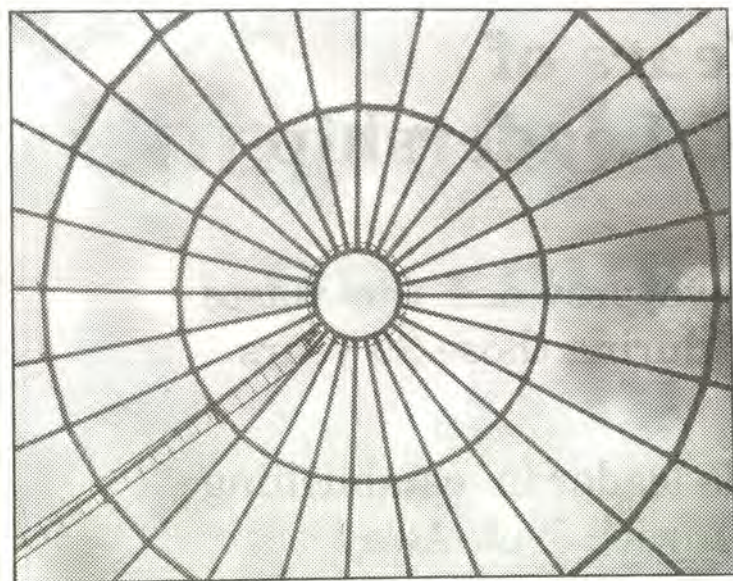
Bryant College brought to Smithfield two decades ago a vibrant and expanding community of students and scholars. This community has grown even more stimulating and dynamic as it has sunk its roots deeper and deeper into northern Rhode Island.

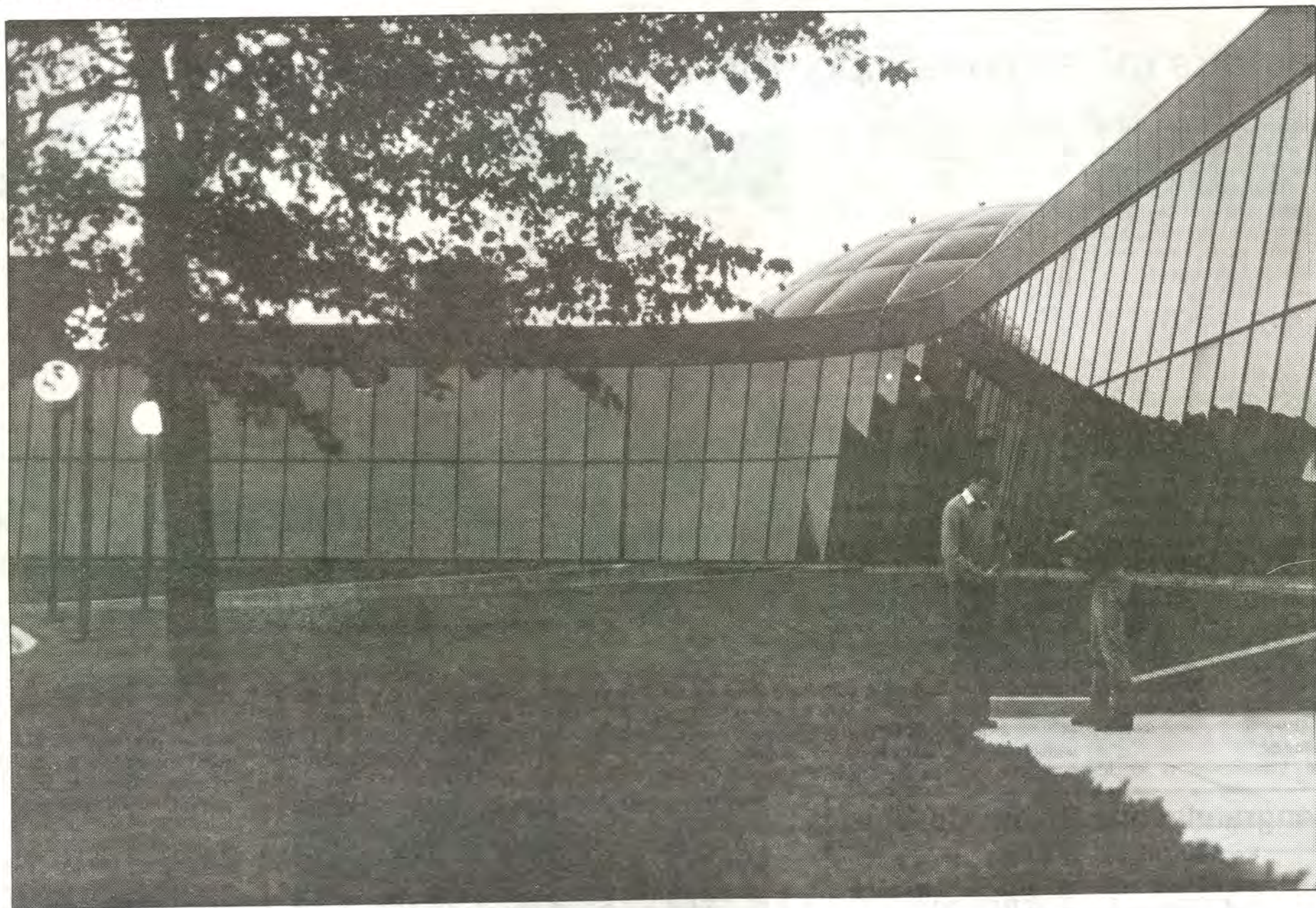
What was principally a commuter college 20 years ago is now primarily residential. What was once a college with a solid local reputation is now recognized nationally for its progressive academic programs and community outreach. What was once a suitcase college now boasts a quality of life that students stay around for on weekends.

All of what is Bryant today is brought to Smithfield by a faculty and a staff recruited from all areas of the country and with a cultural diversity that continually injects the College with new vigor and dynamism. Here are just a few glimpses of Bryant today.

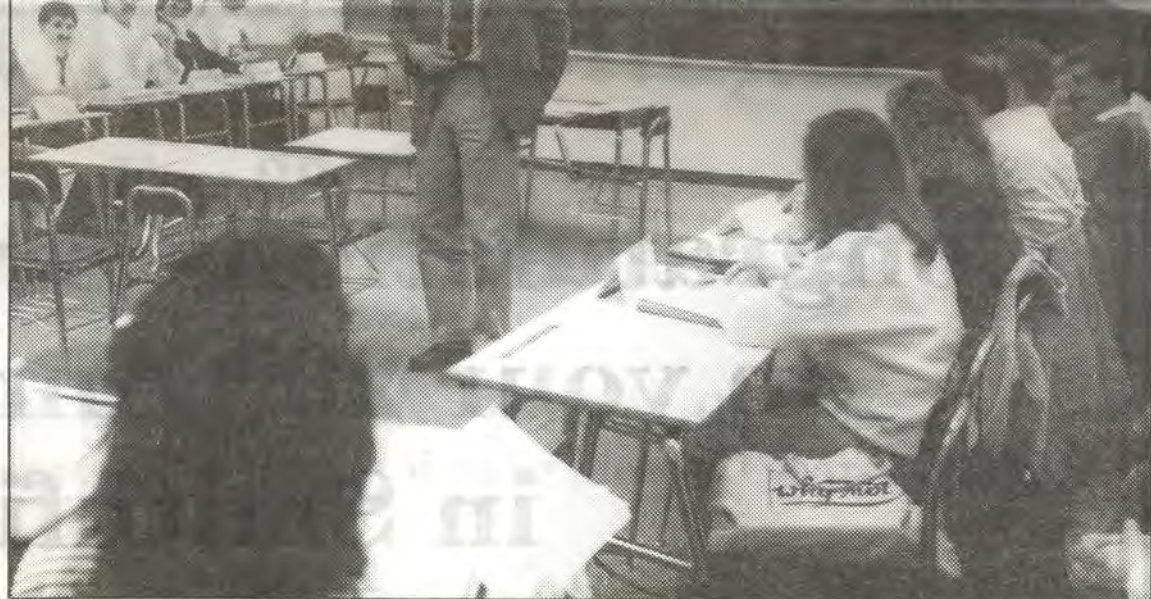
CÓUNTERCLOCKWISE from above are the State Ballet of Rhode Island performing in Janikies Auditorium; the sky as it appears through the Rotunda dome; Bryant's Arch, as it framed the entrance to South Hall on the East Side Campus; and Bryant's townhouses, one of three living options on campus.







Clockwise beginning above: An award-winning unistructure with walls of bronze-tinted glass houses classrooms and offices. Outstanding teaching remains the top priority at Bryant. A Performing Arts Series brings dancers and other performers to campus. The Kristen Hatch Memorial Road Race for alcohol awareness is sponsored annually by the Smithfield Lions Club and Bryant.



Campus mixes contemporary charm with New England ambience

A meandering drive starts at Douglas Pike about a mile north of the intersection with the George Washington Highway in Smithfield. The drive ends amid brick and glass buildings, lush trees and shrubs, manicured lawns and playing fields, dry rock walls and two ponds. You have arrived at Bryant College.

The beauty of Bryant's campus on Memory Ridge--about 20 minutes northwest of Providence and overlooking the Woonasquatucket Reservoir--is not lost on those who study, teach, and work there. The impact of the campus on the senses, in fact, may be the characteristic mentioned most often by visitors.

Jacobs Drive ends in a circle at the Unistucture classroom and office building--Bryant's most dominating facility. Its angled, bronze-tinted, glass walls reflect all the sights around it. An eye-catching latticed dome caps the Unistucture's Rotunda--the building's prime gathering spot for students on the way to and from classes.

The Unistucture is much

more than an architecturally distinctive building, however. It is the center of academic and administrative life at Bryant. Classrooms, laboratories, faculty and administrative offices, student and faculty dining halls, the auditorium, and the swimming pool lie within its glass walls.

The Unistucture also sits on the same piece of land that once served as the center of Earl Tupper's world. The Tupperware founder donated his 220-acre farm--the old Mowry homestead--and the 18th-century homes and barn on it to Bryant in 1967 so that the College could move from the East Side of Providence to Smithfield.

The farm's homes and barn were preserved in cooperation with the Smithfield Historical Society and moved to a location on John Mowry Road--the original country road leading to the homestead from Washington Highway. The oldest home, built in 1708 by Captain Joseph Mowry, a descendant of one of northern Rhode Island's first settlers, now serves as the Alumni



Bryant's main entrance, Jacobs Drive, is dedicated in 1971.

House. The other house serves as the home for the Brycol Student Services Foundation, which operates several businesses on campus. The barn is now the Country Comfort student pub.

Mowry Road, split by the campus and open only to local traffic, serves as a secondary entrance.

It didn't take long for College officials to realize that students now studying and living on a

rural campus needed places to "hang out" and to socialize and recreate. A gymnasium, envisioned for later construction, soon was built. To this day, when Bryant students are not in class or in their rooms, they can usually be found in the gymnasium, or the multipurpose activities center (the MAC) added on to the gym. The tennis courts, the track, the cross country course, and the acres and acres of playing fields on campus also get a constant workout. A portion of those acres once served as a landing field for airplanes.

The MAC includes a Nautilus-equipped fitness center, racquet-

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The Bryant Center, a nationally recognized "student union."

ball courts, and multipurpose courts for sports such as basketball, volleyball, and tennis. It also hosts concerts, mixers, and other large-scale social events, and houses the campus radio station and student newspaper.

Student union space, also incorporated into the Unistructure by the architects, became inadequate by the mid-1970s. So Bryant's trustees authorized the construction of a separate student center--the Koffler Center. That building itself was outgrown in about 10 years. It, in turn, was transformed in the mid-1980s into the Koffler Technology Center--Bryant's academic computing center--as the College built a much larger student union--the Bryant Center. The Bryant Center now rivals

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During its years in Smithfield, Bryant always has shaped the campus to better accommodate residential students. More than eight of every 10 undergraduate students--approximately 2,500--now live on campus. And they have several living options.

Freshmen live in a traditional complex of two four-story residence halls linked by a terraced plaza. Both were built in the mid-1980s. Upperclass students live in 13, four-story suite-style residence halls, most of which opened in the early '70s. Seniors also can choose to live in several two-story townhouse complexes. Each of those units

includes a kitchen, living and dining areas, and several bedrooms, and the units are fully furnished and air-conditioned. The newest townhouse complex was opened in 1990.

There is another Bryant facility that also gets its fair share of use. It is Hodgson Memorial Library--one of New England's most complete business publications repositories. Located in the Unistructure, Hodgson Library boasts a highly regarded collection of small business and entrepreneurship publications. Hodgson also is technologically advanced, with a computerized card catalog and a computer network that can put researchers in touch with almost any publication in the country through a variety of databases and CD-ROMs.

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built a much larger student union—the Bryant Center.

The Bryant Center now rivals the Unistructure for distinctiveness on campus. The three-story, triangle-shaped, brick building is situated on the other side of the ponds that grace the central campus. Opened in 1986, the Bryant Center was recognized in 1990 in a national reference guide of "outstanding college unions" for its design, function, and furnishings.

A food mall, including a cafeteria, a pizzeria, a dairy bar, and Bryant's plush Heritage Room restaurant, dominates the Bryant Center's first floor. The bookstore, lounges, meeting rooms, a word processing center, a hair salon, several student-run shops, a chapel, and game, music and television rooms make up the second floor. (The TV room is "Nick's Place," named for alumnus Nicholas Colasanto, "coach" on the award-winning TV show "Cheers.") The third floor houses offices for most of Bryant's student clubs and organizations.

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'Town-gown' partnerships continue to thrive, grow

Bryant College's annual impact on the economy of northern Rhode Island and its Smithfield home, in particular, runs into the millions of dollars. For instance, 340 of the college's 557 employees live in communities in northern Rhode Island, where they spend large chunks of their incomes and pay their taxes.

But there are many other impacts--almost too many to mention--that flow directly from Bryant's "living" in Smithfield. Many involve "town-gown" partnerships and other community-service relationships that have grown up over the past 20 years. Here is a look at a few of these partnerships.

Special Olympics

One of Bryant's longest-running partnerships has been with the Northern Rhode Island Special Olympics program. Each spring, hundreds of Bryant students plan and host the annual games for more than 500 Special Olympians from Smithfield, North Smithfield, Burrillville and other northern Rhode Island com-

munities. The event is always a day to remember.

Smithfield Lions Club--Hatch Memorial Road Race

One of Bryant's newest partnerships is with the Smithfield Lions Club. Together, the college and the club have established the Kristen Hatch Memorial Road Race as a major "alcohol-awareness event" in Rhode Island. More than 1,000 runners and walkers from all over southern New England participate to raise up to \$20,000 a year for the Bryant scholarship fund named after Kristen Hatch. She was a Bryant student who, while jogging in Smithfield, was killed by an alleged drunk driver.

Fraternity-sorority community projects

Bryant's "Greek" organizations spend hundreds of hours each year working on philanthropic projects in northern Rhode Island. Shelters for the homeless, soup kitchens, parks and recreation areas, and charities have benefitted from volunteer



For many years, Bryant students have hosted the Northern Rhode Island Special Olympics games.



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And if you've thought of gas just in terms of heat and hot water, think again. Natural gas engines and turbines can be used for cogeneration. Plus lower fuel and maintenance costs are making gas the smart choice in commercial air conditioning.

One more nice thing about natural gas. Almost all the gas we use here in New England is piped directly from sources in North America. A reassuring thought.

You'll want more details, of course. So just call your local gas company. They'll show you why it's better to run your business in the blue with natural gas. Gas. Energy at work. 



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weekend labor or fund-raising efforts organized by fraternities and sororities.

A few of the northern Rhode Island organizations to benefit: Because He Lives Ministries, Northern RI Mental Health Center, Thunder Mist Health Associates, Lucien P. Benoit House, the Smithfield Conservation Center, Governor Notte Park. And "Greek" involvement in the community grows each year.

Performing arts/sports events

Bryant hosts concerts, plays, dance performances, and other cultural and special events that, along with a complete schedule of basketball games and other athletics events, are open to the public. The Cumberland Company theatrical troupe, for example, is in residence on campus. It shares the stage with the Bryant Players, a troupe of student thespians. Among other recent performances: the Boston Ballet and State Ballet of Rhode Island, comedians George Carlin and Howie Mandel, and singers Rob Bass and Jenifer Lewis. And don't forget the New England Patriots football team, which calls Bryant home during the summer.

Academic programs

Bryant offers five scholarships to Smithfield High School graduates, and also offers an an-

nual \$1,000 scholarship for use by the Smithfield police and fire departments. Senior citizens can also take Bryant classes at no charge.

Community relations council

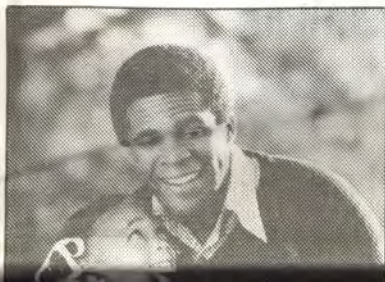
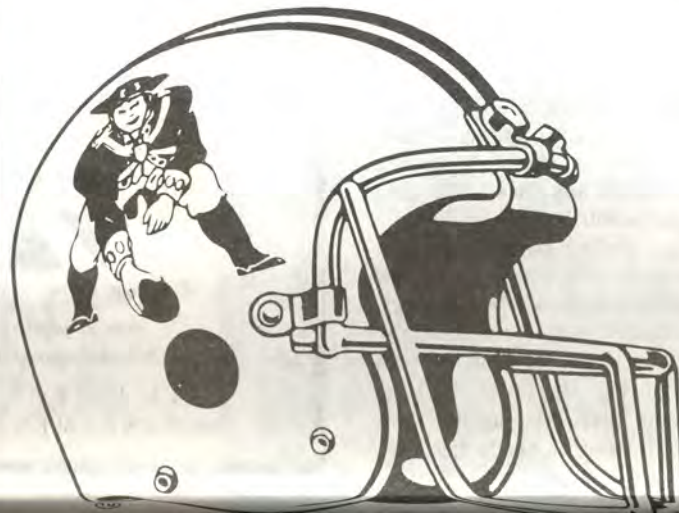
Bryant has formed a "community relations council" to

maintain and open new lines of communication with Smithfield and other northern Rhode Island communities. The council is comprised of senior Bryant officials and community and business leaders. It meets at least three times annually.

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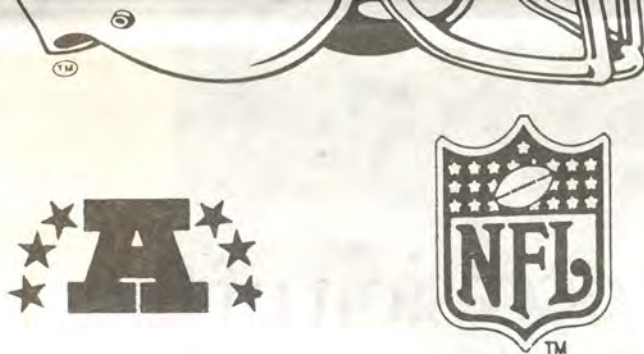


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Athletics prospered after move north

Bryant College athletics teams were the orphans of New England college sports before the move to Smithfield. Teams spent as much time searching for places to practice and play as they did competing.

Virtually all of Bryant's East Side-campus teams played on borrowed athletics facilities because of the scarcity of locations there. The only facilities were a basketball court in an old auditorium with no seats and a stage, two tennis courts, and a baseball field that had a building about 200 feet from home plate in right field.

As a result, the men's basketball team played at Hope High School or Brown University. The soccer team played at the Local 57 softball field. The tennis team played wherever it could find more than two courts. The baseball team did play at the field with the short right field, but it forced Bryant's rightfielders to become very talented at playing balls off the wall.

Since the move to Smithfield,

Bryant has developed one of the best athletics facilities for a college of its size in the country. Overall, more than 50 acres of the campus are occupied by playing fields or buildings.

The heart of the athletics complex is the Gymnasium, with seating for 2,700 fans, exercise, weight and locker rooms, and athletics offices. It is the home of the men's and women's basketball teams and the women's volleyball team, and was the site for the state schoolboy basketball tournament for many years before it was moved to the Providence Civic Center 10 years ago.

Outdoor facilities include separate playing fields for baseball, softball, and men's and women's soccer teams, eight tennis courts, a quarter-mile running track, and an international-style cross-country course.

The cross-country course, in fact, is recognized as one of the finest in the East. It has been the site in recent years of the NCAA Division II regional competition and several New England AAU

championships, and it is the site for all major Rhode Island high school meets. The course also is the home course for Smithfield High School's cross-country team.

Bryant's women's varsity athletics program actually was born after the move to Smithfield. Today, there are 14 varsity teams at Bryant—divided equally between men and women.

The athletics program at Bryant has flourished during its two decades in Smithfield. Over the past nine years, for example, Bryant teams have won 16 conference championships, and individual athletes have been cited as all-Americans 30 times.

And basketball players such as Dave Sorafine, of North Providence, Danny Mazzulla, of Johnston, and Ernie Dewitt played in front of capacity crowds at Bryant while helping the College become one of the top Division II programs in the country in the '70s and early '80s.

Local Rhode Island athletes have always played a major role in Bryant sports. Sorafine and Mazzulla still rank among the all-time leaders in several categories of basketball statistics. The area also has contributed some of its all-time leading baseball players to Bryant. They include North Providence's Keith McWhorter, who reached the Major Leagues, Tony Garganese, of North Providence, Bryant's all-time homerun and hits leader, and Bryant Hall of Famer Bob Antigiano, of Johnston.



The Bryant Indians athletics teams compete in the Northeast 10 conference.



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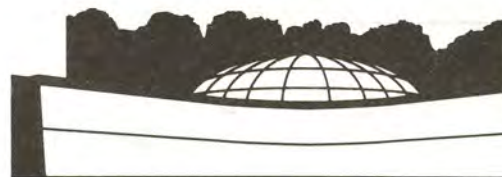
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